

THE BICENTENNIAL BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAHÁ'Í FAITH

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 200th anniversary of the birth of Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i Faith. The message from the Baha'i faith has been that of justice, unity, and peace. I am proud to join my Baha'i constituents in Kansas and those around the world to recognize the occasion of the Bicentennial Birth Anniversary of the Baha'i faith.

The Baha'i Faith first arrived in the U.S. over 120 years ago and now the Baha'is live not only in my state of Kansas, but in every state of our union. Wherever they may live, Baha'is champion the principles of their faith and strive to build a better world by being good citizens, serving their communities, as well as working side by side with others to promote the common good.

Our world would do well to follow the example of Baha'u'llah, as he was known for his charity, service to others, and known as a father to the poor. I am grateful for this opportunity to wish the entire Baha'i community the very best as they continue to be an example of common respect and service to their fellow man.

RECOGNIZING THE 2017 INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN SALES AND DEVELOPMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2017 recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Woman in Sales Leadership Award presented by the Institute for Excellence in Sales & Business Development (IES).

IES was created to foster excellence in business sales and development practices and to help sales professionals and organizations maximize their efforts. IES conducts a variety of workshops and programs designed to provide the knowledge and tools necessary to advance the careers and growth of those who attend. Each year, IES recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations throughout the United States who demonstrate exemplary performance through leadership, risk taking, innovation, vision, and customer development.

Awards are presented in categories including Excellence in Sales Innovation, Excellence in Sales Training, Excellence in Sales Management, Excellence in Customer Partnering, and Excellence in Strategic Alliances. In addition, Lifetime Achievement Awards are bestowed to a select few who have demonstrated continued success and have made significant contributions in their fields.

The recipient of the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Awards is Mr. Paul Smith, Senior Vice President and General Manager of Public Sector for Red Hat, North America. In this capacity, Mr. Smith manages the Red Hat portfolio

across the entire federal government, as well as the state and local marketplaces as it relates to education. Prior to joining Red Hat, Mr. Smith enjoyed successful careers at VERITAS, Netscape Communication and Oracle.

The recipient of the inaugural Woman in Sales Leadership Award is Ms. Mary Beth Cockerham, Vice-President of Sales for Deltek. In this capacity, Ms. Cockerham manages all sales personnel related to Deltek's GovWinIQ program, which provides business intelligence to companies that are pursuing public sector sales. Prior to joining Deltek, Ms. Cockerham spent 20 years with Sun Microsystems in a variety of data-related sales roles.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Paul Smith and Mary Beth Cockerham for their innovative and effective leadership and in congratulating them on receiving the 2017 IES Lifetime Achievement Award and Woman in Sales Leadership Award.

EXTENDING FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge Congress to address the imminent financial crisis that is facing our nation's community health centers.

Last week, when I was back home in my district, I had the opportunity to visit the Institute for Family Health Center for Counseling in the Bronx. This is just one of New York's 29 Federally Qualified Health Centers operated by the Institute for Family Health, which is committed to improving access to high-quality, patient-centered primary health care targeted to the needs of medically underserved communities. The Center for Counseling highlights the importance of integrated behavioral health as part of the primary care continuum for all Americans, regardless of where they live.

My visit was a reminder of the important role community health centers play in our nation's health care system. They are driven by a commitment to reduce health disparities and assure every American has access to high-quality health care. Congress must not stand in the way of this vital role.

However, this Republican-led Congress has championed partisan gridlock that threatens the vitality of our community and teaching health centers. As of today, we have watched 24 days go by since federal funding for the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) Community Health Center Fund expired at the end of September. These federal health programs have steadfast bipartisan support, yet the majority's partisan approach is holding up the essential federal funding these centers rely on.

Within a package to extend federal funding for community and teaching health centers as well as the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Republicans proposed several problematic offsets that would ultimately set our health care system back. For example, certain changes to Medicaid would inhibit access to pediatric providers, and cuts to the ACA's Public Health and Prevention Fund

would undermine the value of preventive services delivered at community health centers. Furthermore, the package would lead to higher premiums for certain seniors receiving Medicare benefits and shorter grace periods for individuals who receive their health coverage through the individual market. In other words, this package would slash benefits and protections for one group of beneficiaries to extend services for another.

Democrats will not stand for any packages that would rob Peter to pay Paul. I urge my Republican colleagues to drop this partisan exercise and work with us on a compromise to extend these long-standing, successful, bipartisan federal health programs. The job of our nation's 10,400 community health centers is much too important to bear the brunt of needless political games.

CONGRATULATING BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL HAYES ON HIS RETIREMENT AS MANAGING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MILITARY AND FEDERAL AFFAIRS, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud that Maryland is home to some of the finest military installations in the country, where our nation's most dedicated service-members and civilian defense employees work to keep our country safe. Over the last eighteen years, they and their families and the communities that support our installations have had an outstanding advocate in Brigadier General Michael Hayes USMC (Ret.). Since August, 1999, after his retirement from a distinguished career as a decorated Marine Corps officer, Mike has led the State of Maryland's Office of Military and Federal Affairs as its first Director.

Under Mike's leadership, the Office of Military and Federal Affairs and the Maryland Military Installation Council have overseen efforts to bring community, academic, and military—as well as federal, state, and local—resources together to promote regional development and economic growth. I've had the pleasure of working closely with him over the years to ensure that Fifth District military installations—Patuxent River, Webster Field, and Indian Head—can continue to grow, serve our national defense, and bring jobs and opportunities to surrounding communities. Mike has played a pivotal role in these efforts, which have earned him accolades, including being named one of two national 'Public Officials of the Year' by the Association of Defense Communities (ADC) in 2007 and becoming a member of the ADC Board of Directors in 2011.

Mike's service to the State of Maryland caps a long career as a Marine officer. He served on active duty during the Vietnam War, commanding artillery batteries during two tours. Later, he went on to command Marine units based in the United States, Japan, and Panama before serving as Chief of Staff to the II Marine Expeditionary Force during Operation Desert Storm. Following his return home, Mike served as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Facilities and Services at the Marine Corps

headquarters before his retirement from thirty-three years of commissioned service in 1999.

A native of Wisconsin, Mike obtained his B.S. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin, and he holds degrees as well from the Naval War College and the National War College. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in thanking Mike for his long career of service to our nation and to the State of Maryland. I wish him and his wife Barbara, as well as their two children and three grandchildren, all the best.

RECOGNIZING THE 2017 BLACK AND GOLD SCHOLARSHIP BALL AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Joyce-Gillespie-Harrington Charitable and Educational Foundation and the Zeta Upsilon Lambda Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity on the occasion of their 37th annual Black and Gold Scholarship Ball.

Since 1980, these two organizations have made tremendous contributions to promoting academic opportunities for youth in Northern Virginia and in the greater Washington, D.C., metropolitan region.

The programs offered by the foundation are vital to the success of our students. This year's Black and Gold Scholarship Ball will support scholarships for ten college-bound high school students. During the last nineteen years, one-hundred students have received scholarships awarded by the foundation and have attended some of the top colleges and universities in the country. With the typical college graduate's debt averaging about \$30,000, the foundation's continued support of these students is absolutely crucial.

I am pleased to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2017 scholarship winners:

Jordyn Bingham (Westfield HS)
Ibrahim Eltahir (Falls Church HS)
Nathanial Herbert (Dominion HS)
Morgan Hobson (Fairfax HS)
Kevin Lacey (Rock Ridge HS)
Andrew Lewis (Riverside HS)
Nicole Monlyn (Rock Ridge HS)
Justin Shelby (South Lakes HS)
Elijah Williamson (Herndon HS)
Mathewos Yiheyis (Hayfield SS)

Mr. Speaker, these students represent our country's next generation of gifted leaders who will have great impact on our society and future. I thank the Joyce-Gillespie-Harrington Charitable and Education Foundation and the Zeta Upsilon Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity for their dedicated commitment to fostering success in our youth and commend all of the scholarship winners for their academic excellence. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating these talented students and wishing them great success in all their future endeavors.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF OFFICER JUSTIN A. LEO

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Officer Justin A. Leo, 31, of Girard, who passed away on Saturday, October 21, 2017, at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Youngstown, Ohio, following an injury sustained in the line of duty. Officer Leo, a five-year-veteran of the Girard Police Department, was responding to a domestic dispute call when he was fatally ambushed by the suspect, who was then shot and killed by Leo's partner.

Justin was born January 9, 1986, in Youngstown, Ohio, to David and Patricia (Carson) Leo. He was a 2004 graduate of Girard High School and had attended the University of Toledo and Youngstown State University before graduating from the YSU Police Academy in June 2009. Justin worked for the Mahoning County Sheriff's Department and the Vienna Police Department prior to his appointment to the Girard Police Department on July 6, 2012.

Justin was a member of the Girard High School State Champion Cross Country Team in 2000, the Girard F.O.P. Lodge No. 52, the Girard Alumni Association, and St. Rose Church. Outside of work, Justin loved golfing with his dad and his old friends from the senior tees. He also umpired for the Girard baseball leagues and coached in the 4-6 youth basketball league.

Justin will always be remembered by his parents of Girard; his aunt, Denise Mitchell of Girard; his great-uncle, John (Mimi) Baglier of Canfield; great-aunts, Edith Paz of Sun City Center, Florida and Josephine Berezo, of Parkland, Florida and many cousins. He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Jennie Ellen Leo and John and Lila Carson and his uncle, Donald Leo.

Public calling hours will be held on Saturday, October 28, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the gymnasium. A funeral mass will be held on Sunday, October 29, 2:00 p.m. at Girard High School gymnasium, officiated by the Rev. Msgr. John Zuraw. Justin will be laid to rest at Tod Homestead Cemetery, following a private committal service.

My heart breaks for Officer Leo's family and friends in this tragedy. They have not only my thoughts and prayers, but the prayers of a community grateful for his selfless service. I extend my deepest condolences.

IN RECOGNITION OF MISS PHENIX CITY 2018—STELLA KONTOS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize Miss Phenix City 2018, Stella Kontos.

Stella is a junior at Auburn University majoring in Chemical Engineering and minoring in

Business. She is vice president of the College of Engineering and on the university's Dean's List. Stella is also a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, Cardinal Key, Lambda Sigma Honors Society, Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, National Society of Collegiate Scholars and Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority.

Seven years ago, Stella founded her personal platform S.T.A.G.E. (Science, Technology, And Girls in Engineering). Stella works to increase female student participation in Engineering. She's the student liaison to the "100 Women Strong" organization and has spent 1,200 hours speaking to over 5,000 students in 25 different classrooms and conference settings.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Miss Phenix City 2018, Stella Kontos.

RECOGNIZING THE 2017 ABOVE AND BEYOND BREAKFAST FIRST RESPONDER AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of individuals in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and to their community and are being recognized by the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce at their annual Above and Beyond Breakfast.

This event recognizes first responders in the Greater Springfield area who better their community by quietly volunteering personal time, energy, and financial support to fill a need outside of their day-to-day duties. In addition to honoring first responders, a portion of the proceeds raised at the Above and Beyond Breakfast are donated to charitable organizations designated by the honorees.

This year, three members of the public safety community are being honored by the Chamber. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the following individuals.

Private First Class Tom Black, Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, for his work with seniors, Camp Sunshine and World Vision

Private First Class Anthony Capizzi, Fairfax County Police Department, for his work with the Boy Scouts of America

Mr. John "JJ" Jackson, Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Department, for his faithful operation of Canteen 422, Fire Station 12

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2017 Above and Beyond Breakfast first responder award recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, Fairfax County Police Department and the Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens and in thanking them for their dedication to the safety and protection of our residents, businesses, and properties.